

Protecting Hoosiers from Secondhand Smoke

317.234.1787
www.itpc.in.gov
www.WhiteLies.tv
www.voice.tv



Each year in the United States, an estimated 50,000 deaths are attributable to secondhand smoke breathed by nonsmokers. Of these deaths, 3,000 are due to lung cancer, 46,000 due to heart disease and approximately 430 to sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) each year.

The U.S. Surgeon General has concluded that smoke free workplace policies are the only effective way to eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke in workplace. Separating smokers from nonsmokers, cleaning the air, and ventilating buildings cannot eliminate exposure. Blue collar and service employees are less likely than white-collar indoor workers to be covered by smoke-free policies.

The Surgeon General has also concluded that workplace smoking restrictions lead to less smoking among covered workers.

Indiana is making progress but is lagging behind the rest of the U.S. As of February 2009, 37 communities have passed local smoke free air policies, however 28 of these laws are strong public health policy that protect over 30 percent of Hoosiers from exposure to secondhand smoke. Only 8 communities in Indiana (Hancock Co., Monroe Co., Cumberland, Fort Wayne, Greencastle, Greenfield, Plainfield, West Lafayette, and Zionsville) have passed comprehensive smoke free air ordinances which protect all Hoosiers from secondhand smoke. These 8 comprehensive ordinances only cover 7.4% of all residents in Indiana.

Across the U.S., there are currently almost 3,000 municipalities with local laws in effect that restrict where smoking is allowed. These include some of the largest cities, such as New York City, Los Angeles, San Diego, Dallas, San Francisco, and Boston. Thirty states have state laws that require 100% smoke free workplaces, and/or restaurants, and/or bars protecting approximately 65% of the U.S. population from exposure to secondhand smoke.

Entire countries that are smoke free: Ireland, France, Hong Kong, Norway, Sweden, New Zealand, Malta, Uganda, Bhutan, Italy, Quebec, Canada, Scotland, Bermuda, and Spain, among others.

Support for smoke free air laws is high among Hoosiers

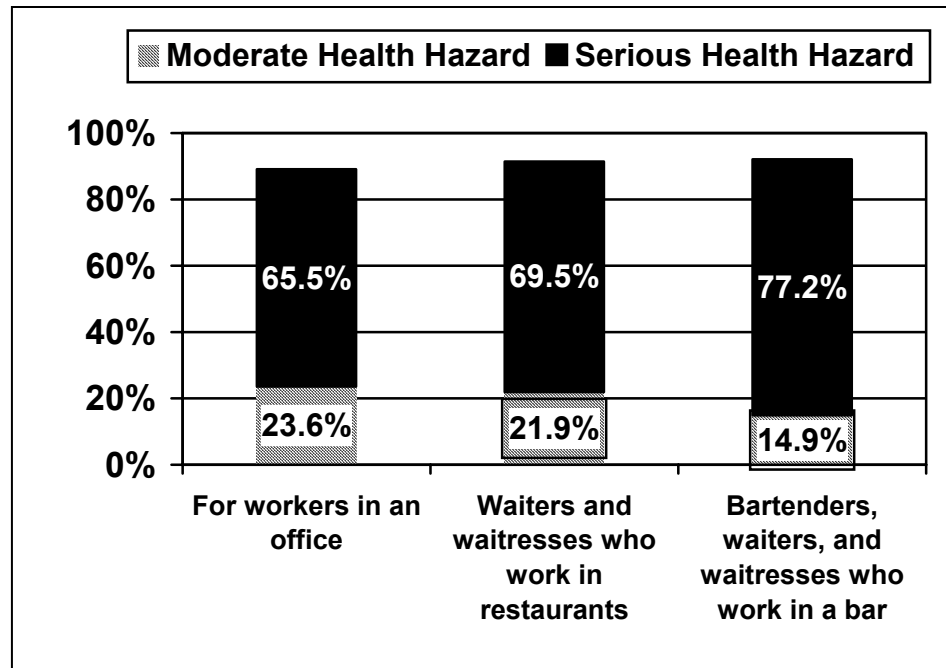
- Seven out of ten Hoosier adults reported an indoor work policy prohibits smoking in all work areas.
- Nine in ten Hoosiers (91%) feel smoking should not be allowed in indoor work areas. Hoosier adults, especially nonsmokers, support smoke free policies in public places.
- Eighty-four percent (84%) of Hoosiers are somewhat or very concerned about the health effects of secondhand smoke.
- Three out of four (74%) Hoosier households are smoke free.

Protecting Hoosiers from Secondhand Smoke

317.234.1787
www.itpc.in.gov
www.WhiteLies.tv
www.voice.tv



Percent of Adults That Say Secondhand Smoke is a Moderate to Serious Health Hazard



- A strong majority of Hoosier adults feel that exposure to secondhand smoke in various workplaces is a serious health hazard.
- Throughout Indiana, 126 hospitals have a tobacco free campus policy, and 40 mental health and substance abuse treatment facilities have a system-wide tobacco free policy.

The U.S. Surgeon General's report emphasizes the impacts that secondhand smoke exposure has on children.

Indiana communities are working with local school districts to ensure tobacco use is not allowed on school campuses anywhere.

- Forty (40) counties have all tobacco free schools districts providing 64 percent of our youth with protection from secondhand smoke at school.
- However, 16 counties do not have a tobacco free campus at any of the school districts in their counties.

